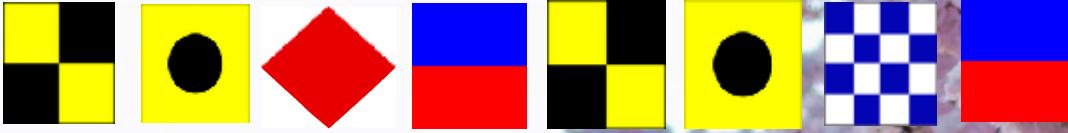


LIFELINE



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM YACHT CLUB

APRIL 2023

**DATE
CHANGE!**



**CHERRY BLOSSOM CRUISE
MARCH 25**

WOMEN AT THE WHEEL

I sat down with 5 amazing women to talk about our favorite topic....BOATING!!

THE BRIDGE



FLAG OFFICERS

Commodore ~ Rick McHarg ~ commodore@pwyc.org
Vice Commodore ~ Jim Khoury ~ vicecommodore@pwyc.org
Rear Commodore ~ Scott Parsons ~ rearcommodore@pwyc.org
Secretary ~ Sabrina Salter ~ secretary@pwyc.org
Treasurer ~ Sherry Samar ~ treasurer@pwyc.org
Immediate Past Commodore ~ Mike Connolly ~ ipc@pwyc.org

FLEET CAPTAINS

Membership ~ Una Murphy ~ membership@pwyc.org
Social ~ Denise Guess-Parsons, Sherri Connolly, Carol Vasquez, Jenna Burum, Beth Lu, Shannon Leydig ~ social@pwyc.org
Newsletter ~ Robin Davis ~ newsletter@pwyc.org
Safety ~ Bob Schwartz ~ safety@pwyc.org
Webmaster ~ Mike Manning ~ webmaster@pwyc.org

DOCK REPRESENTATIVES

A-Dock	Vacant - Seeking Volunteer
B-Dock	Julie Finacchiaro & Keith Clouser
C-Dock	James & Dawn Brady
D-Dock	Matt & Lisa Shaw
E-Dock	Nicholas Roper
F-Dock	Vacant - Seeking Volunteer
G-Dock	Charlotte Blaine
H-Dock	Joy & Walt Heuer
I-Dock	Chris & Sabrina Salter
J-Dock	PWM - Sales Dock
K-Dock	Jason and Shannon Leydig
L-Dock	Vacant - Seeking Volunteer
Boatel	Joe Peruzzi

DELEGATES

PRYCA ~ Beth & Sheldon Lu
CBYCA ~ Mike Connolly, Tim Abel



Member Club of Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA) & Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association (PRYCA)

Commodore's Corner

Rick McHarg
commodore@pwyc.org
EAGLE ONE K-40
571.239.1367



All Hands on Deck! Spring has Sprung, we are in Daylight Savings Time, and the Cherry Blossoms have come and gone (almost). Its time to start unwrapping, de-winterizing and making ready for underway on the Rivah! Our first on the water event of the cruising year is the *Cherry Blossom Cruise* which should be happening this weekend, March 25th. Thanks to Past Commodore Mike Connolly and his mate Sherry for hosting our volunteer Photographer CAPT Lou Ward up at the Tidal Basin aboard "Summer Daze". I hope many of you were able to get out there for great Boat photos with the Blossoms in the background.

Back on solid ground, the PWYC Social Committee did a great job with the 2023 Change of Watch Gala a couple of weeks ago. Your 2023 Bridge was properly installed in fine fashion at the Embassy Suites Springfield. Much celebration and dancing including a Pajama after-party. There might be some photos around... I particularly wish to thank Social Committee Chair Denise Guess and Master of Ceremonies Doug Burum for their efforts. Your Club is also hosting the PWM Employees and their families for a Mexican themed Appreciation Potluck dinner in the Blue Bath House April 29th.

Opening Day is right around the corner on April 15th, and Vice Commodore Jim Khoury has a full day of activities planned that includes a lunch and a Captains Hour sponsored by your Yacht Club Bridge. So don't miss it! The schedule is detailed fully later in this issue. Plan to come to the Flag Raising with your winter sox to burn (Don't wear them!) as part of the opening tradition.

There are free Vessel Safety Inspections scheduled so sign up in the Bath house. And your own Safety Officer, Bob Schwartz, hosted his 3rd Spring Occoquan River Safety Forum for all the Marinas, Yacht Clubs, and Marine Safety organizations and marine businesses last week. This coalition has helped immensely to reduce incidents on the water and increase awareness of all the users. Way to go Bob! Check out Rear Commodore Scott Parsons column for planned on water events; the first is the Mother's Day outing to the Wharf in DC. Registration is open now, so get your slip reserved and join in for the overnight 5-6 May.

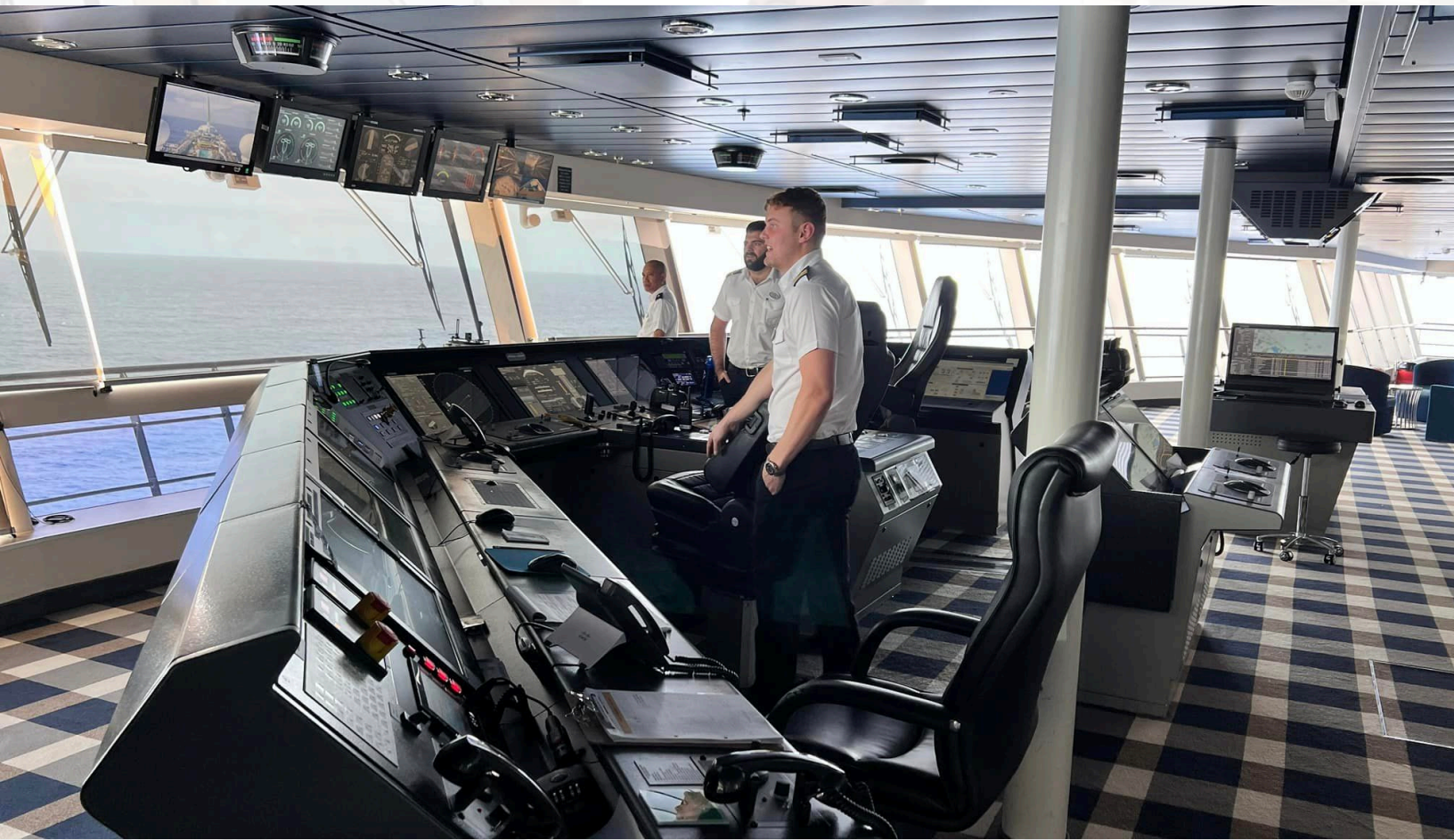
Later in this issue, be sure to read editor Captain Robin Davis' article on Women at the Helm. He has done extensive research with several member ladies and others who have extensive bridge time...and check out Una Murphy's membership report. She will be producing the 2023 Membership Directory for distribution to those requesting it via their Wild Apricot profile. To get one you needed to renew your membership on Wild Apricot, pay the \$100 dues, then check the block on your profile. We have had a lapse in memberships this year of about 20%. While some people have moved or sold their boats, we are finding by direct calling that some are just forgetting to renew. If you know someone on your dock that hasn't renewed, drop a hint. Always happy to get someone back!

I would be remiss if I didn't put a plug in for all members to check the events calendar on the Website www.pwyc.org. It is your most accurate guide to what's ahead for you, both ashore and on the water. Look for flyers on all our activities in the Lifeline and on the website.

And if you want to know about anything happening at the marina and can't get good info, don't hesitate to give me a call at 571-239-1367

See you around the docks!

NEWS FROM THE BRIDGE



Thoughts from the Vice Commodore

Jim Khoury
vicecommodore@pwyc.org
Pegasus K-21



Mother Nature has been playing an emotional game with our boaters! Seventy and near eighty-degree days in February and March is Florida weather... Not Northern Virginia!

There's still a chill in the air, but it's time to unwrap, de-winterize and relaunch! Put on a jacket and get to work...

As most of you are aware, the NPS has determined that the peak bloom of the DC cherry blossoms is well before the month of April – in fact a week before the end of March! So, if you are reading this and had your plan in place to visit the DC waterfront by boat to see the blossoms, I hope you joined your Yacht Club for the Cherry Blossom Cruise on March 25th.

One of the area's premier boat shows (Bay Bridge Boat Show) is scheduled for April 14th through the 16th. If you are planning on going, consult our website's event calendar for the link to the Annapolis Boat Show website.

The Prince William Yacht Club's opening day is scheduled for April 15th. This day is loaded with activities for all in attendance! Here's the schedule planned for the day:

- 8:30 AM - Potomac River cleanup (PWM docks)
- 11:00 AM – PWYC Board Meeting (blue bathhouse/top)
- 11:30 AM – PWYC General Membership Meeting/Lunch (blue bathhouse/top) - all members in good standing. Lunch will be hot dogs, chips & soda/water.
- 1:00 PM – Opening Ceremony/Flag Raising (flag pole by boat ramp)
- 1:30 PM - Nautical Flea Market for Boat equipment - Sell/donate anything you don't need (blue bathhouse/downstairs)
- 2:30 PM – Dock Rep meeting (blue bathhouse/top)
- 2:30 PM - Boating Seminars (blue bathhouse)- Stay tuned → Check the Website for details and registration.
- 3:00 PM – Boating Navigation Apps (blue bathhouse/top)
- 4:00 PM – Photo Contest Tips Presentation (blue bathhouse/top)
- 4:30 PM – Great Loop Presentation (blue bathhouse/top)
- 5:30 PM – Commodore's Happy Hour #1 (blue bathhouse/top) - please bring a dish to share (wine and beer will be provided)

Meanwhile, the USCGAUX will be providing VSCs (Vessel Safety Checks) throughout the day. It's a good idea to have the vessel certified and display the decal. If you pass under the WW Bridge, you're almost guaranteed to be boarded without the decal on display. Check for the link on the home page for the VSC checklist. It'll help you get prepared for the inspection. There will be a sign-up sheet posted at the lower-level blue bath house bulletin board 10 days before the event.

If you miss this USCGAUX VSC event, or aren't ready, there's another scheduled in May.

Check with the PWYC Website Events Calendar frequently to stay on top of the upcoming events. Sometimes, an added event may appear that wasn't in the original plan – so check often!

That pretty much brings us into the head of the season... There's plenty more on the Social Calendar, I'll report back with the next issue of Lifeline.

Please remember to keep informed by visiting your PWYC Website frequently!



<https://pwyc.org>

- Jim Khoury
Vice Commodore PWYC
Pegasus – K21

CAN'T TIE A KNOT? TIE A LOT!!

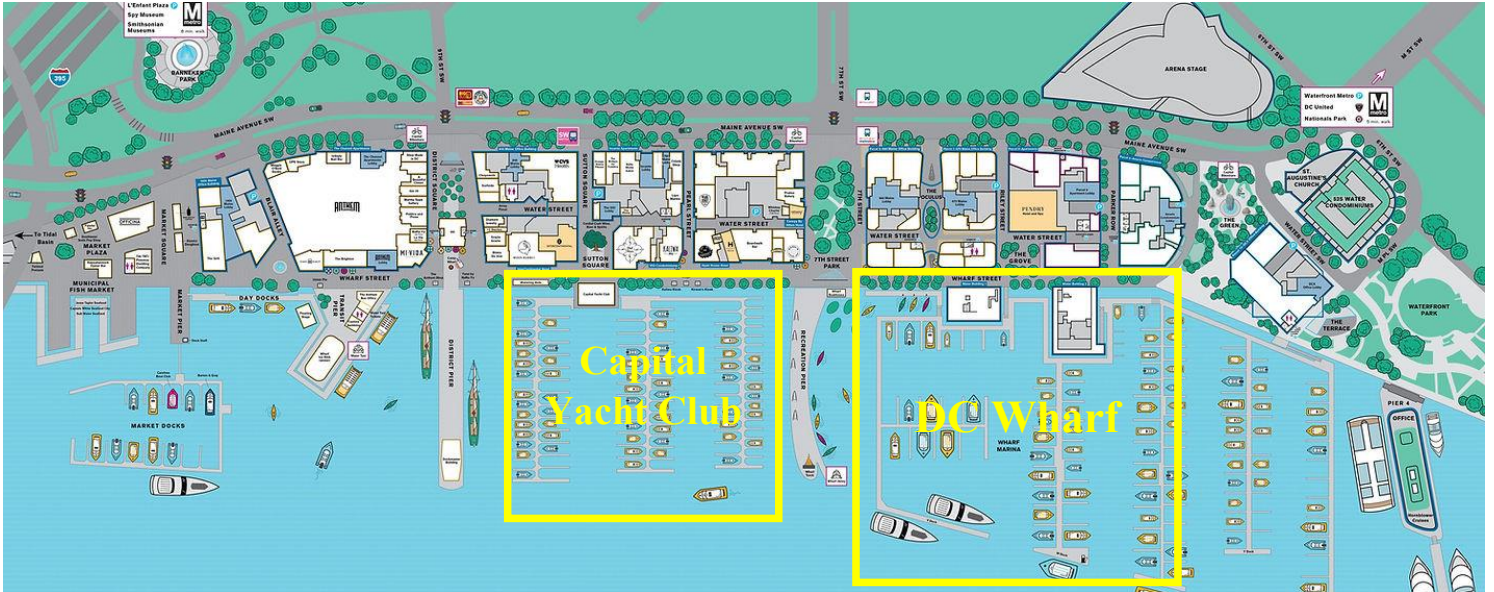


Knot tying is pretty important for boaters. Thanks Vicky Carr for sending this great article from Power and Yacht magazine on this very topic. Check it out.

[How to Guide to Knots and Linehandling](#)

Mother's Day Cruise to the DC Wharf

6 and 7 May 2023



Register via the event page at <https://pwyc.org>

We will be using the Wharf DC Marina as the primary location.

They use Snag-A-Slip to make reservations

<https://www.snag-a-slip.com/chesapeake-bay-marinas/potomac-marinas/wharf-marina>

\$4 per foot (Example: 38 Ft x \$4 = \$152)

N 38°52'36.6" W 77°01'21.0"

650 Wharf Street SW

Washington DC 20024

<https://www.wharfdcmarina.com>

dockmaster@wharfdcmarina.com

Marina Office phone: 202-595-5165

The other option is the Capital Yacht Club.

Some like to stay here as they have long time boating friends.

65ft LOA or less

\$3 per foot per day (Example: 38 Ft x \$3 = \$114)

Over 65ft

\$6 per foot per day (Example: 38 Ft x \$6 = \$390)

Reservations: <https://www.capitalyachtclub.com/reservations/>

Cruise Plan and details will be forthcoming to those who are registered.

Rear Commodore

Scott Parsons
rearcommodore@pwyc.org
Island Time G34



Happy April and I hope for minimal showers. Yes, I am one of those that thinks anything taller than a blade of grass is a weed. How about the COW!! For those unable to attend it was a blast. Thanks go out to the Social Committee. Enough Said.

As you know we had to move the Cherry Blossom photo cruise up a week due to such a mild winter the trees started blooming early. We have a fine line for this event and guessing what the weather will be is hit or miss. Please note that we try our best to when scheduling events and cruises, yet mother nature plays the biggest factor in actually continuing as planned or having to reschedule.

With the weather we have had I wanted to open up the petcocks on Island Time and turn the keys. But I have seen drastic changes in the weather in March and played it safe. As I write this, I am only a couple of weeks for de-winterizing. If you haven't already de-winterized please make sure all your pre-launch items are in safe running order, and let her run for a while to make sure temps are on point and all other gauges are registering normal parameters. Some may experience an issue they are not familiar with when doing your pre-run, this isn't uncommon after sitting in the slip or storage through the winter. I have a few sites listed below the cruises that provide a plethora of information that just might be able to assist in fixing any problem. And you all know we are at one of the best, if not the best marinas on the Potomac when it come to taking care of us. Thank you PWM.

We have nine participants registered for the Mother's Day Cruise to the Wharf. Some are going up on Friday (05 May) even though the dates are 06 and 07 May. I am going up Friday myself and have already book my slip via Snag-A-Slip. I am coordinating with the Wharf Marina to try and get everybody close if possible. I will have an email out to all who have registered with more details on the cruise to include a float plan, weather updates and activities during the weekend.

The next on water event in May will be the Memorial Day raft up at Mattawoman Creek. Thanks to Mike Manning for volunteering to Champion this event. This will be a good opportunity to re-hone your skills in rafting up with a group and assisting others. For those who have never rafted up, you will be in good hands as we have some of the best Captains on the water who have years of experience and can help in every aspect like preparation of your boat before approaching, radio communications, and potential for having to drop an anchor to support the raft up. And if you don't feel comfortable setting an anchor, we can work around that, just let us know as you might be asked. Trust me I was leery of setting my anchor the first time rafting up, but after the first time, and be asked time and time again my comfort level increased each time.

I am still looking for a Champion for the final PWYC cruise to National Harbor 21-23 October. After Captains register you count on them to assist, and I assure you they will not hesitate to help out. If you are interested or have questions you can contact me at rearcommodore@pwyc.org.

Be safe and we will see each other on the water soon. Don't forget the land events, as we always need volunteers.

Your Rear Commodore
Scott Parsons
Island Time G34

2023 PLANNED CRUISES

- 06-07 May PWYC Mother's Day Cruise to the Wharf DC (Scott Parsons Championing)
- 26-28 May Memorial Day Raft up in Mattawoman Creek (Mike Manning Championing)
- 16-18 June Father's Day Cruise Colonial Beach Yacht Center (PWM and PWYC) Still working details
- 15-21 July Bay Cruise (Commodore Rick McHar)
- 28-30 July PRYCA Float In at Coles Point
- 18-20 Aug Three Sister's Raft Up (Rick McHarg Championing) Backup date 1-3 September (Labor Day)
- 16 Sept Patriot Cruise and Salute (PCS Championing)
- 22-24 Sept Pirates Night on the Hook at Mattawoman Creek (Joint PWM and PWYC) (A Team Effort)
- 06-08 Oct Commodore Cruise to TBD (Rick McHarg's)
- 21-23 Oct Final PWYC Cruise to the National Harbor (**Need a Championing**)

Here are just a few sites that I came across that provided answers and there are several more.

Club Sea Ray is a Sea Ray boat owners Site: [Club Sea Ray](#)

The Hull Truth: [The Hull Truth - Boating and Fishing Forum](#)

Sea Ray boat manuals: [Sea Ray Boats User Manuals Download | ManualsLib](#)

Raymarine This site has everything from products to manuals and even a service and support where you can get answers to questions on your specific boat: [Raymarine | Marine Electronics by Raymarine](#)

Garmin seems to be the other popular electronics within our yacht club: [Garmin International | Home](#)



**DATE
CHANGE!**



CHERRY BLOSSOM CRUISE & PHOTO SHOOT PRINCE WILLIAM YACHT CLUB

Saturday, March 25, 2023

**Start your boating season by joining the PWYC for the Annual
Cherry Blossom Cruise & Photo Shoot!**

**Bring your family and friends on this cruise up the Potomac River, to
the tidal basin in Washington, DC.**



**Have portraits taken of your boat and crew
in front of the Washington Monument.**

Register at <https://pwyc.org>

Treasurer

SHERRY SAMAR
IRISH HAWK, H-41



PWYC Treasurer's Report

02/01/2023 – 02/28/2023

INCOME

Dues	\$ 1,500.00
Change of Watch	\$ 5,260.00
Interest	\$ 0.29
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 6,760.29

EXPENSES

PRYCA Dues	\$ 75.00
Dues Refund Winner (John & Anne Williamson)	\$ 100.00
Wild Apricot Renewal (2 years)	\$ 1,224.00
Zoho Email	\$ 346.09
Wild Apricot expense	\$ 218.55
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,963.64

Checking account balance 03/01/2023 **\$39,676.84**



Ships Manifest

Membership Chair

Una Murphy

membership@pwyc.org



CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations to John and Anne Williamson, Boatel, winner of the
“*Get Your Dues Back*” campaign!

The 2023 PWYC Membership Drive Continues!!

Please help me welcome new and renewing Prince William Yacht Club Members (from February 10, 2023 – March 10, 2023; any membership payments received after this date will be listed in the next Lifeline):

BJ Braden and Carrie Braden
Lance Bozliniski and Laura Bozliniski
Linda Bradbury
Ken and Debra Campbell
Amber Dozier and Corey Briscoe
Mark Dungan and John Dungan
Mark Evans and Chris Evans
James Faulkner and Kelly Faulkner
Arthur and Rebecca Fernandes
Steve Harrison and Kim Harrison
Fred Hauck and Michele Kennedy

Gerd Henssen
Skip and Kristyn Jones
Edward McCarthy and Doreen McCarthy
Matthew Mitchell and Laura Mitchell
George Pasion and Amy Pasion
Eric Reuter and Lisa Graybill
Liz Rogers and Jeff Miller
John Schleifer and Robin Schleifer
Michael Turch and Jessica Turch
Bruce Weinstein and Celeste Weinstein
Ray Wilson and Greg Young-Wilson

Opening Day is Right Around the Corner

Before opening day, please indicate in your online record whether you want a membership packet for the 2023 season. *If you do not* check Yes on your record, a membership packet – including the hard copy directory - will NOT be printed for you.

Download the Wild Apricot Mobile App to help you stay connected to PWYC:



Personify
WildApricot



Don't forget that you can use the **Wild Apricot Member App** to stay connected to the Prince William Yacht Club even in the off-season.

Download the app, sign in with the same email address and password for your **PWYC** account and start using it!

This app helps you:

- Interact with fellow members anywhere from your mobile device
- Register and make payments for events
- View all existing event registrations
- Update your member profile, including your address, phone and email
- View your membership card

Scan the QR Code above OR download the app from the Apple App Store or Google Play!

Renew Your Membership Today:

If you haven't renewed your membership for the 2023 season and want to do so now, you have options!

Renew via **Credit Card** in the Wild Apricot App or on pwyc.org

Or

Send a \$100.00 **Check** made payable to: **PWYC** to

PWYC Membership Renewal

c/o Prince William Marina

12849 Gordon Boulevard

Woodbridge, VA 22192-3240

If you know marina friends or dockmates who have not yet renewed, please give them a reminder. If you know marina friends or dockmates who are not members, please recruit them for membership!

Thanks everyone!!



WOMEN AT THE HELM by Capt. Robin

As we all know, boating is a great recreational activity that offers a unique opportunity to experience the beauty of nature while enjoying the thrill of adventure. However, despite its many benefits, pleasure boating is still considered a male-dominated activity. Women, in particular, are often underrepresented in the boating community. But why should women miss out on all the fun?

Earlier this month, I had an opportunity to sit down to dinner to discuss one of my favorite pastimes, boating. But, this wasn't the stereotypical "fella's at the bar talking typical guy smack". On this evening, I met with five women who have a passion for boating and I wanted to learn more about why women do or do not get behind the wheel. Our group consisted of 5 women with a very broad experience base from simply steering the family boat, to a self proclaimed river rat who's been running her own boats on the river for 35 years.

Vicky Carr, captain of CarRuisin' a 39' fly bridge motor yacht tells me she was a "very reluctant boater". In fact, for the first 5 years of boating, her husband Bob was the only one who knew what to do on the boat and she wouldn't even think of touching the wheel. But, eventually, Vicky wanted to learn more. She wanted to help Bob with docking and understand what was happening. So, she took a single lesson and never looked back. In no time, she was always at the helm of their Sea Ray 340.

Since that first time behind the wheel, Vicky has taken the time to develop skills and ability in the engine room, navigation both basic and advanced and is now the full time captain of their boat. When asked how she got so comfortable with navigation, she said "I



wanted to use the boat more and do more with it. At that time PWYC was planning a trip, so I volunteered to be Champion.” But, not just any trip. It was a Bay trip to Crissfield, Md. She said, “I figured if I’m going to do it, I better know where I’m going and how to do it safely.” Vicky has since run her boats up the Hudson River to Waterford, New York, down the ICW and Atlantic Coast to Key West, Florida.



Judy Khoury has been boating for years in New York City with her family. In fact, she and husband Jim are on their 7th boat. Judy said she had no interest at all in driving the boat. That was Jim’s job. Then, in their new home here at PWM in 2019, Vicky Carr had pulled together a boaters class exclusively for women, called “Gals at the Helm.” Judy said, “That was the first time I realized I actually did want to do more than just be a passenger. I felt empowered by “Gals at the Helm”. I learned to control the boat and do touch and go docking.” It took three more years for Judy to get behind the wheel again. And she did it on their new 510 Sundancer on the way to Solomons Island. “I just wanted to do it, so I [basically] told Jim to move over and I drove 70% of the way down. It was great, because he was right there by my

side and let me do it. When we got into the Bay, it was getting a bit rough and Jim offered to take over, but I stayed right there. I really enjoyed it.”

Sandy Potterfield, a close friend of mine, has been boating these waters since 1988. “My step dad had this idea that he wanted to be a boater, so he bought a 19’ bow rider. It didn’t take long for him to say he was selling the boat, so I bought it.” Sandy took that boat everywhere for years. Because it was only 19’, she could tow it behind her vehicle. It’s rumored that she could back down the ramp, launch it and get the car parked faster than most people could just back down the ramp. Sandy and her partner Stephanie sold the little boat in 2012 and purchased a 27’ Larsen 268 bow rider. “We love the river. I’m a river rat. For years I’ve loved to go exploring and going fast,” says Sandy. “It’s nothing for us to do lunch at Ricks (Fairview Beach), dinner at National Harbor and build a bonfire on the river bank while dancing in the moonlight,” Stephanie said.



Stephanie, similar to Judy, has not moved into full “ownership” of the Captains chair. She drives a small percentage of the time but mostly does the other important part of boating, line handling and anchoring. Stephanie says, “Sandy loves to drive. She teaches me how to do certain things, but she’s never happier than when she’s in command.”



Bernadette Davis remembers boating with her grandparents when she was a kid. “Grandpa had a 48’ Grand Banks and he would take us kids for weekend cruises in the Gulf of Mexico. We would laugh and jump off the boat, until the day my mom and grandma said they’d watch out for sharks! That ended the jumping off the boat for me.” But things changed in 2006, “We went on a couple of day trips with the kids on a friends boat and I was hooked.” In 2007 she and I

(her amazing husband, if you're keeping score) joined in a local boat club. "Robin and I did all of our training together, both classroom and on the water." Bernadette was competitive during all of our training and was great at navigation and chart plotting. Her boat handling skills were very good and soon, we found ourselves in our very own 370 Sea Ray. "I would love taking my kids out boating while Robin was at work. Or doing a girls only trip."

Why don't we see more women at the helm? As a husband and a professional captain, this question has been on my mind for years. There's no "male magic" to operating a boat and, if I'm honest, some of the best handlers I've trained are women. Sorry, guys, the ladies tend to listen more and swagger less. Being a card carrying member of the Male Ego Society, I'm allowed say that. But, there's truth in it, although I don't understand the science. Most of my women clients analyze, ask clarifying questions and execute better than my male clients. But, I wondered how the ladies would answer this. While they all used slightly different words, the theme remained the same. *Intimidation*.

Judy felt intimidated by the lack of defined lanes. Sure, there are channel markers, but you don't always see them. "For me, it just feels crazy, with boats zooming around any way they want. I have no idea where they're heading. So, it's just a bit too much. I actually prefer car driving." Stephanie, also said she really prefers driving her car rather than the boat. "I understand how the car moves and stops. I know where I can and can't go." I found it interesting that anyone would prefer I-95 over, well, anything at all. But, the more we talked, the more I understood. The lack of well defined and organized lanes plays a key part, for some, as to why they don't like boat handling.



"We purchased a Regal 4260, our first diesel boat and she and I just struggled. I hit submerged logs, bent props and finally just gave up," Bernadette says. "The boat was much bigger than our 370. It handled differently and it fought me. We owned that boat for 4 years and I stopped docking or any slow boat handling during the first summer of ownership." When we got our 470DA in 2019, Bernadette slowly made her way back to the helm. "The desire to drive something new and different and not the Regal. I wanted to drive and the extra push from you telling me it was time to get back behind the wheel. I was afraid of it and I didn't want that fear to consume me."

"It was a big, intimidating machine with so many systems", recalled Vicky. "It had a process that I didn't understand." But, once she decided to learn the process and everything about the big machine, Vicky felt "liberated." Not only does Vicky now know and understand the machine, she does a lot of her own work on it. She challenges herself to learn more and more, which results in exponential growth in confidence.

Sandy and Stephanie had a unique view and response to the question. Sandy said, "As a same sex couple, we really don't give any thought to what is or isn't male dominated, we just do. So, since we love boating, we really didn't have any choice, nor did it cross our mind not to captain our own boats." Stephanie added, "We've chartered boats as large as 60' and Sandy is always the captain. It just works well for us."

Along the lines of intimidation, was a commonly heard “fear of damaging the boat and docking”. Let me tell you, there’s not a captain out there of any gender that isn’t afraid of those two things. None of us wants to damage someone else’s boat and none of us wants to dock a boat, in a cross current on a breezy day. But, it’s so important to understand how to get the boat back home. You may never dock it, but you should at least learn to pull it up along a gas dock or T-head in the event the primary handler becomes sick or injured.

How do we get more women behind the helm? The group felt that more women centric classes would really help and to me, it makes sense. It’s an environment that they describe as comfortable. But the logistics of doing that may, itself, be a hinderance to getting to the goal. For me, I think there’s something else that can be done as well. Spouses can have a significant impact on women's decision to get into pleasure boating. It would require all of the primary operators male or female, to create a reduced stress environment in which to learn. When I’m training a couple, I usually tell the spouse who’s not at the wheel, to bite their tongue.

That part isn’t always so easy. Speaking from a male brain, I’m not entirely sure why it’s not easy. I think we don’t always allow the time to process the instruction and all that’s happening. Now, of course, when we were learning it, we took the time we needed to process. But, for some reason, when our spouse wants to learn we either get bossy; give the ENTIRE explanation for how to do a simple step rather than give smaller data points or we “mansplain” things, which is rarely viewed as helpful.

Boating requires rock solid communication and trust. It requires patience and quick forgiveness and, candidly, it requires mutual respect and support. I know I may get a portion of my man card ripped away, but I’ll stand by my statement - there’s nothing magic about driving a boat and testosterone isn’t a required component for successful operation.

So, what’s in the future for this great group of female mariners?

Well, Vicky is preparing to lead a trip all the way up to Canada, thru the Great Lakes. If I know her, she’s got everything mapped out and detailed right down to the name of the dog that lives at the 4th marina stop once on the Erie Canal.

Judy is planning to do more time behind the wheel and maybe, just maybe, do some touch and go docking on the t-head, with Jim by her side cheering her on all the way.

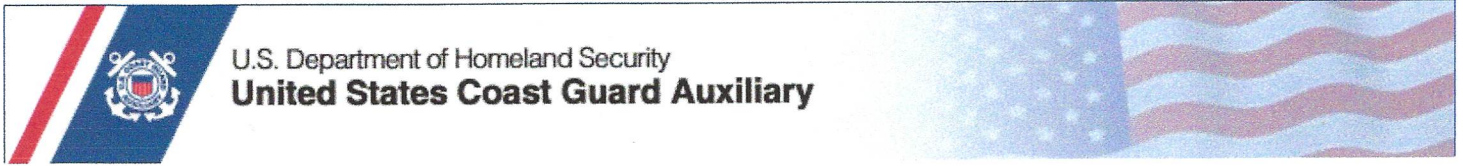
Stephanie and Sandy will continue their exploration day and night along the river. Dancing to the light of a bonfire on the shore at some crazy late hour.

Bernadette finally landed on her dream boat, a Fleming 55 this past Fall. We brought it home over a month long journey thru the Great Lakes, into Manhattan and out into the Atlantic. After a summer on the Bay, she’ll be taking me on amazing adventures down the east coast to far away places, with the sun in her face and the wind in her hair.

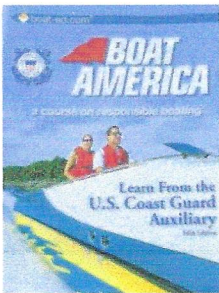
I’d like to thank all of these amazing people for taking the time to discuss this topic. They inspire me, one and all, with their drive, courage and desire. It is my personal hope that more women will find their way behind the helm this summer and if there’s anything I can do to make that happen, please let me know. In the meantime, talk to these ladies, ask them questions and believe, you can do it, too.

BOAT AMERICA

Boating Certificate Class



Public Education Course Flyer: Boat America



Boat America is a boating certificate class that offers an in-depth and interesting boating safety course, and provides the knowledge needed to obtain a boating certificate.

Some insurance companies will also offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete this course.

TOPICS INCLUDE

- **Introduction to Boating** – Types of power boats, boating vocabulary, sailboats, paddle boats, powering boats, and engine types.
- **Boating Law** – Boat registration, regulations, hull identification numbers, required safety equipment, Federal boating law, state boating law, and reporting accidents.
- **Safety Equipment** – Life jackets, fire extinguishers, sound-producing devices, visual distress signals, anchors, and other safety equipment.
- **Safe Operation and Navigation** – Buoys and beacons, aids to navigation, navigation rules, docking, and the dangers of alcohol on the water.
- **Boating Emergencies** – Hypothermia, boating accidents, man overboard, capsizing, emergency radio calls, carbon monoxide dangers, and weather.
- **Trailering** – Types of trailers, lights, hitches, towing a trailer.
- **Sports and Boating** – Water-skiing, hunting and hunting gear, PWC operation, and other boating tips.

**Presented by Flotilla 054-25-06
Occoquan - Fairfax, VA**

Course: Boat America
Start Date: Sat, 13 May 2023
Hours: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Duration: 8 Hours
Lessons: 1
Location: Prince William Marina / Electric Palm
12745 Sea Ray Lane
Blue Bath House By River
Woodbridge, VA 22192

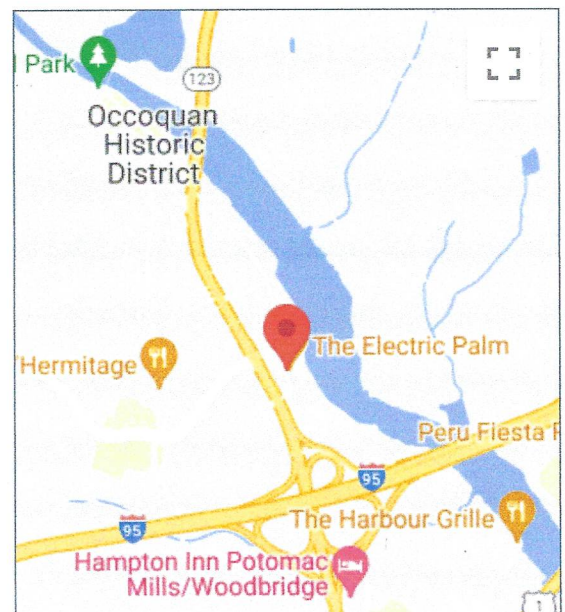
Contact: Teresa Allen
tallen@pwmarina.com
(703) 494-6611

Course Cost: \$35

Register By: Fri, 12 May 2023

Comments: Take Sea Ray Lane down the hill to the bottom & at the stop sign turn left to bathhouse #2 on your right hand side. Class is in big blue bldg next to the pool.

Posted: Wed, 01 Feb 2023



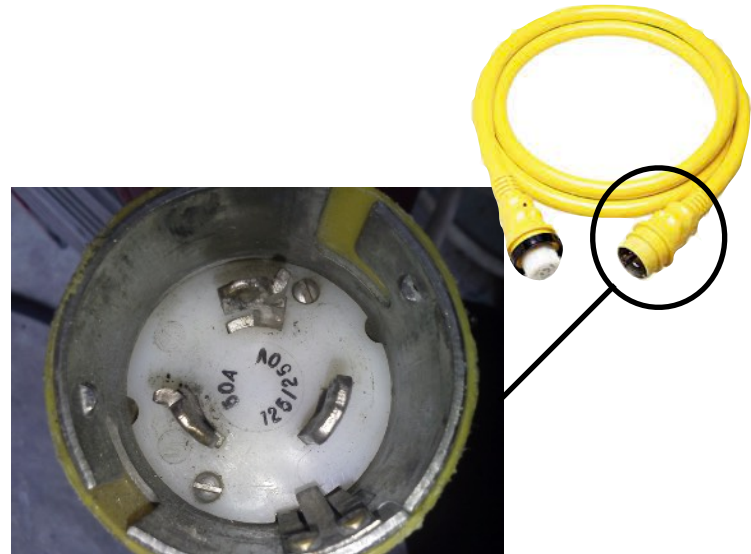
ASK A TECH

How do I know when I am using too much electric in my boat? Why is there a burnt spot on my power cord?

Each boat with AC power has one of two shore power cord sizes; 30amp 110V or 50amp 220V. Some boats have two power cords, you can determine the size of your cords by looking at the male end of the cord.



30 amp power



50 amp power

When plugging in your power cord **ALWAYS** plug in the boat side first before the dockside (don't want to be carrying a hot cord across the water to the boat risking dropping it in the water---not a good outcome for you) Be sure when you plug into the dock you make a good connection and twist the plug properly, it should not pull outward once it is properly connected or bend out of the connection. Bad connections, bent/broken blades can cause problems, we see it often, if your cord looks like this it is time to replace it.



Time to replace

Inside of your boat is the MDP (Main Distribution Panel) where there are red and white breakers. The white ones are AC and next to or alongside of the breakers are two gauges one is AC volts and the other is AC amps

The AC amp gauge is the one we will be looking at; as you turn on the breakers you will see the amp gauge raise. Knowing the size of your power cord you do not want to exceed the amps your cord can handle 30 or 50 and you should stay under that number slightly if possible.

When you are unplugging to leave the dock ALWAYS turn off the AC panel's main circuit breakers first and then unplug from the dock first and then the boat. Also never coil a cord tightly on the dock; such a coil acts as a heat generator and can cause a fire, hang the cord or lay it down loosely with only a few turns.



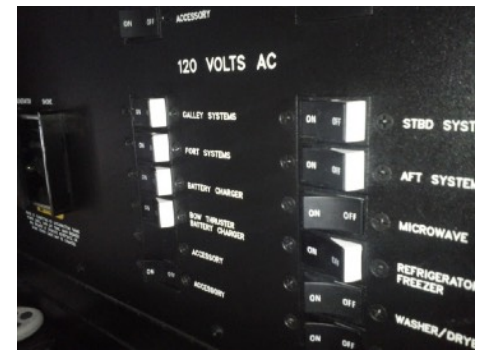
Don't let this happen to you!

Our next question concerns low water on the river. What if anything should we do or be concerned with when the wind blows hard and the water is gone and very low in the Occoquan River?

Doug's Response: As many of you know there are usually several times during the year that the water will get very low in the river, many times with high winds blowing it out. If the water gets extremely low we strongly recommend that you turn off all a/c units. If you leave them on they will clog up with mud. Also it is not wise to run the engines & generator when the boat is near bottom because the mud will get up into the



strainers. Basically turn everything off and you will be fine, the bottom is soft and mostly muck so the boat sitting on the bottom if that happens causes no problems. Now as for your lines, being on floating dock there should be no issues with the lines getting tight. We do have our marina guys check up and down the docks when the water is low just to make sure everything looks ok. We will be sending out an email if we see the water low or going low but sometimes it happens overnight.



120V AC Breaker Panel



Volt Gauge (Available voltage)



Amp Gauge (power using)

View from the Quarter Decks



By Michele Price, PWM

Spring is coming, well maybe a few cold days before that but with the Cherry Blossoms scheduled to peak early, I am hopeful for a burst of warm spring days soon. For those of you that have not been in the marina lately be sure to stop up and see the new renovations in the showroom as well as the service area and bays (it was time for a 20 year refresher) and I think we have done a good job. With that being said, here is some info about the upcoming season.

Gate Codes—remember that the gate codes changed March 1st, you were sent the new codes with the slip agreements.

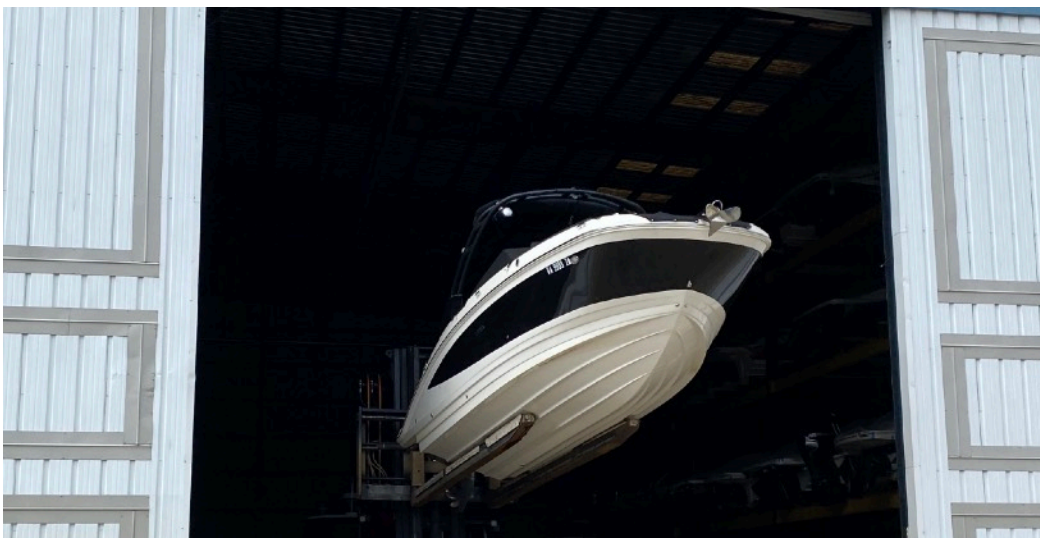
Dock Water—We have no specific date on when the water will be turned on. Once the weather forecast shows warmer weather and no freezes, we will send out an email from service to all slip and boatel holders.

Spring commissioning—Sign up soon for your de-winterization, forms are on the website. We will NOT be able to perform any same day service so be sure to plan for the warm weather.

Spring Detailing & Bottom Painting forms are now on the web site—Requests are coming in fast and furious after service sent out the notice for spring commissioning. Please submit requests as soon as possible we take them in order received and will do our best to accommodate.

Upcoming Dates of interest:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| April 1 st | Boatel Opens!! |
| April 15 th | PWYC Opening day, Potomac River Cleanup (PWM), PWM/VASARS Duck Drop |
| April 27 th | PWM Maintenance Class, details and sign up coming soon |



It's time to bring 'em out!!